RULES AND REGULATIONS

AND

COURSE OF STUDY

OF THE

MICHIGAN SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

PUBLISHED BY

THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

LANSING.
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BOARD OF CONTROL.

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Handicraft:

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KATE WRIGHT, ... Cooking.
MATTIE KILLAM, . Hammock Netting, Etc.
RHA CONKLIN, . . . Broom Making.

AMENDED RULES AND REGULATIONS,

Michigan School for the Blind.

Amended and Adopted September 10, 1895.

(See Sec. 3, Act No. 123, Public Acts of 1893.)

The object of this institution is, it is believed, to fit pupils as far as may be for useful citizenship. A good citizen possesses a good moral character, intelligence and the ability, in part at least, to support himself.

The school authorities aim to make prominent such instruction as will tend to secure these desired qualifications. As a means to this end, it is believed that the following are requisite:

1. A system of discipline that promotes regularity of habits and secures the exercise of self control.

2. A course of study, practical as well as comprehensive, that will develop the powers of thought and educate the pupil.

3. Such care of the body as will result in the best muscular and physical development; this being attained by learning and practicing some useful and remunerative

handicraft, together with such an amount of recreation as may be possible, not only in the gymnasium, but as well in the open air on the grounds. For these reasons a system of instruction which combines the teaching of ethics, intellectual training and hand labor in the shops or work room is adopted, in all of which each pupil will be required to take part according to his ability.

The Board of Control will arrange the course of study for all pupils connected with the school. It shall comprehend a period of eight years, and shall be arranged in eight grades, each grade being intended to require one school year's work of an average pupil. A supplemental course of two years or grades may also be arranged, for the benefit of advanced and worthy pupils, but the privilege of pursuing such advanced course shall in every case be entirely subject to the discretion of the Board of Control.

The course of study shall not be altered or amended without the authority of the Board.

The boys will be assigned times for systematic exercise in the gymnasium, and grounds, and regular periods for work in the shop.

The girls will be expected to take part in work assigned them in the sewing room and elsewhere as well as gymnasium practice.

The work and exercise of both boys and girls will be under the supervision of a regular teacher, and will form a part of the daily program.

DUTIES OF SUPERINTENDENT.

The Superintendent shall maintain a proper degree of discipline in the institution, buildings, grounds, premises and in the school rooms at all times. As far as may be the school shall in all respects be conducted so as to resemble a well ordered and well conducted home.

The Superintendent shall frequently call the teachers together for purposes of conference, instruction, advice and common counsel.

It shall also be his duty to personally inspect the work of all the teachers employed at the school and make such recommendations to the Board of Control as may be pertinent in regard to the work of each teacher.

He will promptly report to the Board any defect, fault, omission or neglect of duty on the part of any teacher, officer, or other employe of the Board.

The result of an examination to be made by or under the direction of the Superintendent will determine the standing of pupils, and the Superintendent shall in writing assign each to his proper grade.

Promotions, or transfers to lower grades, may be made at any time by the Superintendent, and he shall keep a record thereof.

In case any pupil or pupils may be insubordinate or disobedient, the Superintendent may inflict or direct the infliction of such penalties and corrective measures as are deemed wholesome in the public schools in this state. In case of persistent or serious disobedience he may, in his discretion, suspend pupils from any one or more of the privileges of the school for a stated period; in like cases with the advice and concurrence of the resident member of the Board, he may exclude any pupil or pupils from such privileges for an indefinite time. All cases in which he recommends expulsion shall be referred to and decided by the Board at any regular or special meeting.

The Superintendent shall do and perform such duties as may be from time to time required by the Board of Control.

DUTIES OF TEACHERS.

Teachers will be required to give their whole time to the school; to this end they will board and make their

home at the Institution, except when a special agreement is made.

They will teach such classes, read to pupils evenings, oversee pupils out of school hours, and do such other work incident to their employment, as may be directed by the Superintendent. They will spend their nights, Saturdays and Sundays at the school, except as they may be excused by special arrangement with the Superintendent, all leaves of absence granted to be recorded in a book to be kept for such purpose and reported by him to the Board of Control.

All teachers are expected to loyally devote themselves to the highest interest of the school and unselfishly to give their best strength to promote its success; to avoid all appearance of rivalry, envy, jealousy or evil speaking among themselves, and especially in the presence of pupils. Gossiping, forming cliques or parties among themselves, or with pupils are each to be studiously avoided. Teachers will meet with the Superintendent whenever by him required to do so for the purpose of conferring with him, and will be required to meet with the Superintendent at such stated intervals as he may determine for the purpose of conference, instruction, advice and common counsel.

Prompt attendance at the classes, places of duty and meals will be required of each teacher.

All teachers, attendants and employes are strictly forbidden to demand, solicit, suggest, accept or receive any fee, gift, present or gratuity from any visitor, pupil, guardian or other person and under no circumstances will this be tolerated.

Each teacher will promptly report to the Superintendent any infraction or violation of the rules, breaches of decorum or anything affecting the good name of the school.

DUTIES OF PUPILS.

All persons admitted to any department of the school as pupils are required to yield a prompt, cheerful and courteous obedience to all of the rules and regulations of the Institution, and also to such written rules and oral directions as may be found necessary from time to time.

All are required to be respectful to all teachers and employes at all times, to be kind and helpful to each other, to wholly and absolutely abstain from the use of improper, indecent and profane language at all times.

Pupils will not be permitted to leave the school premises at any time, by night or by day, without written permission of the Superintendent, or in his absence his authorized representative, previously obtained.

Under no circumstances will pupils be permitted to visit those of the opposite sex in their rooms.

Tobacco in any of its forms, intoxicating liquors of all kinds, objectionable games and all pernicious books will be considered contraband and subject to seizure by the school authorities.

Pupils are required to walk quietly up and down the stairs and in the halls, to avoid noisy or boisterous talking or conduct, and scuffling, wrestling, or unseemly disorder in all buildings and rooms.

All pupils are required to respond promptly to all signals.

Meals will be served only in the dining room, except in cases of serious illness.

Pupils are required to render at all times the same obedience and respect to the suggestions and directions of the teachers in charge at any time or place, as they would accord to the Superintendent under like circumstances.

Possession by the pupils of any matches, false keys, lock-picks or fire-arms will subject such pupils to immediate suspension and subsequent expulsion.

Correspondence between those of different sexes in the school is forbidden. Letters addressed to any pupil not known to be from the parents, guardians, or immediate relatives of such pupil may be suppressed by the school authorities.

Dining Room
Chapel
Geography Room

COURSE OF STUDY.

FIRST GRADE.

KINDERGARTEN.—Clay modeling, paper cutting, weaving, etc., to be adapted to grade work as well as circumstances and age of pupils will admit.

READING.—Teach Braille alphabet thoroughly; Spelling, combination of letters and sounds into words and of words into sentences; First Reader and supplementary work.

NUMBERS.—Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division taught together. Teach all combinations to 10. Counting by 2's and 3's in the different series to 100, and back.

LANGUAGE.—Train pupils to use correct forms of expression and to pronounce correctly.

MUSIC.—Under direction of teacher.

HANDICRAFT.—At direction of teachers.

SECOND GRADE.

READING.—Second Reader, with supplementary work during year.

SPELLING.—From reader, with special attention to syllabication and pronunciation.

NUMBERS.—Combinations to 20. Multiplication table begun. Do rapid work. Count by 4's, 5's, 6's, to 100 and back in all possible series.

LANGUAGE.—Same as first grade, with addition of reproduction of things read, as stories, etc. Make every subject the basis of language study and practice.

GEOGRAPHY.—Points of compass, distances, plats, maps, etc.

MUSIC.—Under direction of teacher.

WRITING.—With Braille slate.

HANDICRAFT.—Dictation of teachers.

NOTE TO TEACHERS.—This grade should read a First (supplementary) Reader and a Second or two Second Readers during the year.

THIRD GRADE.

READING.—Third reader with supplementary reading.

SPELLING.—From reader, etc. Oral and written. Distinct enunciation and correct pronunciation emphasized.

NUMBERS.—Multiplication table to 12 x 12, completed and clinched. Operations in four ground rules, blended with work. Counting and combinations extended and diversified.

LANGUAGE.—Stories reproduced in clear and concise language, with accurate descriptions.

GEOGRAPHY.—Townships, with divisions into sections. Counties, State.

WRITING.—With Braille slate.

MUSIC.—Under direction of music teacher, with well defined, progressive plan.

HANDICRAFT.—Manual training. Hammock and net weaving; elementary sewing, cooking, etc.

GYMNASIUM.—

FOURTH GRADE.

READING.—Third Reader completed and supplementary work done.

SPELLING.—From reader and other assigned work: oral and written.

NUMBERS.—Intellectual Arithmetic:work in four ground rules taken from some good text book, e. g., Stoddard's; Slate work; Long Division mastered; Tables of weights and measures learned.

LANGUAGE.—The sentence studied and learned: Subject, Predicate. Parts of speech, Exercises in composition.

GEOGRAPHY.—Map of Michigan studied, and other work.

WRITING.—In Braille and New York point: Pupils should learn "line letters."

MUSIC.—Under direction of teachers, as above.

HANDICRAFT.—Work extended systematically.

GYMNASIUM.—

FIFTH GRADE.

READING.—Fourth Reader and supplementary work.

SPELLING.—From speller. Constant association of letter and sound, with modifications, silent letters, rules of spelling, etc.

ARITHMETIC.—Strong work in Intellectual Arithmetic, with slate work throughout the year.

LANGUAGE.—Study begun with text book. Memorize choice selections in prose and verse, with drill in recitation, vocalization and expression.

WRITING.—Typewriting, Caligraph.

MUSIC.—Continued systematically.

HANDICRAFT.—Work progressively extended under direction of Superintendent.

GYMNASIUM.—

SIXTH GRADE.

READING.—Reader and assigned work: Read as much supplementary work as possible from selected poetical and prose works.

SPELLING.—From speller and from all text books: oral and written. Word analysis.

ARITHMETIC.—Regular practical work from some good text book.

GRAMMAR.—From text book. Practical application and study of good models continued.

GEOGRAPHY.—From text book. Associate with history and current events.

WRITING.—Caligraph and slate.

MUSIC.—Extended as above.

HANDICRAFT.—See above.

GYMNASIUM.—

SEVENTH GRADE.

READING.—Assigned work.

SPELLING.—Continued.

ARITHMETIC.—Continued, with elements of Geometry and Algebra —definitions, measurements, etc.

GRAMMAR.—Language and Literature.

PHYSIOLOGY.—Two-thirds year.

BOTANY.—One-third year.

U. S. HISTORY.—One-third year, with Geography.

EIGHTH GRADE.

SPELLING.—Syllabication, vocalization, etc.

HISTORY.—United States and General.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.—One-half year.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT.—One-half year.

ENGLISH LITERATURE.—

SUPPLEMENTARY COURSE FOR ADVANCED PUPILS.

(See Rules and Regulations.)

FIRST YEAR.—Algebra, General History, Zoology, Physical Geography, Civil Government, Astronomy.

SECOND YEAR.—Algebra, Physics, Chemistry, Political Economy. Mental Philosophy, Logic.

Rhetorical exercises throughout course.

NOTE:—Other subjects may be introduced as material available and advancement of pupils will permit.

Webster's Dictionary shall be the standard for orthography, pronunciation and diacritical marking.